## CLAIMS

- 1. A filter, characterised in that the passage crosssection of the filter openings can vary automatically depending on a variable inherent to the medium passing through the filter (1).
- The filter as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the filter openings are screened or covered over by elements, whose state relative to the filter openings can vary under the influence of the heat of the medium passing through the filter (1).
- 3. The filter as claimed in Claim 2, characterised in that the elements (4) are punched out in the shape of tongues from the filter openings.
- 4. The filter as claimed in Claim 2 or 3, characterised in that the elements (4) comprise a shape memory alloy.
- 5. The filter as claimed in Claim 2 or 3, characterised in that the elements are designed as bimetal elements.
- 6. The filter as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the filter openings are screened or covered over by flap-like elements, whereby these elements are kept in a starting position by a force effect and can be adjusted to another position by the flow rate of the medium passing through the filter in the sense of changing the cross-section of the filter openings.

7. The filter as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised by use in a dishwashing machine.